



The Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)

- Only global action programme addressing the interface between the freshwater and coastal environments.



What is GPA?

- Global action programme;
- Adopted in 1995 in Washington by 108 States and the EC;
- Aims at preventing the degradation of the marine environment from land based activities and the physical alterations and destruction of habitats.



The Core of the GPA

- GPA is a source of conceptual and practical guidance;
- Specifies action required at national level; and regional and international cooperation;
- Recommended approaches by source category

The Institutional Framework

- GPA is implemented by Governments
- UNEP is the Secretariat
- GPA Coordination Office hosted by the Government of the Netherlands
- Regular Intergovernmental Review Meetings; first one in 2001 in Canada

Why Focus on Marine and Coastal Areas?

- Nearly **half** of the global population resides in coastal areas
- 2/3rd of the world's megacities: coastal
- Goods and services provided by marine coastal ecosystems are worth US \$ 13 trillion per annum, which equals to **half** of the annual global GNP



The Need for the GPA



80% of all
marine pollution
comes from
land-based
activities!



Commitment of the Governments (IGR Nov. 2001)

"We commit ourselves to improve and accelerate the implementation of the Global Programme of Action by:

Incorporating the aims, objectives and guidance of the Global Programme of Action into new and existing activities, action programmes, strategies and plans at the local, national, regional and global levels and into sectoral policies within our respective jurisdictions; ..."

Global Commitment Reaffirmed WSSD 2002

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, Para 33
calls for action to

Advance implementation of the GPA and Montreal
Declaration, with particular emphasis during the
period 2002-2006 on municipal wastewater, the
physical alterations and destruction of habitat, and
nutrients

Focus of UNEP/GPA Programmes

- National Programmes of Action (NPA, NAP)
- Strategic Action Plan on Municipal Wastewater (SAP)
- Physical Alterations and Destruction of Habitats (PADH)
- Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management (ICARM/IWCAM)
- Public Awareness and Outreach including the GPA Clearing-house Mechanism

UNEP/ GPA Implementation Focus

- Focus on Action (not only to identify problems but to find solutions)
- Emphasis is on addressing priorities through appropriate technology, and financial, institutional and legislative/regulatory arrangements
- Facilitating mobilisation of domestic financial resources.
- Building partnerships with the private sector and civil society.
- Replication and up-scaling of best and innovative practices.

Strategic Partnerships with the Private Sector and Civil Society

- Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands
- World Ocean Network (WON)
- World Economic Forum (WEF)
- Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future



UNEP/GPA contribution to this meeting



- National Programmes of Action (NPA, NAP): Intro to the GPA
- NA GPA “node” - NOAA
- GPA evening: Tuesday
- Donor’s Forum - RONA
- Training institute: Municipal wastewater –UNESCO-IHE
- Tour Operators Initiative - DTIE
- Cartagena Convention - CAR/RCU.

WW2BW Opportunities

Many programmes are ongoing

Many institutions and actors involved

B-a-u is no longer an option

New partnerships building on the outcomes of other initiatives

NPA's/NAPs

- National Programmes of Action are *iterative governance processes* that call for the phased implementation of priorities identified within a cross-sectoral, participatory framework.
- Each country must select an approach that best suits its particular characteristics (e.g. political, institutional and regulatory frameworks).
- No two national approaches will have quite the same appearance, scope or focus.

NPA's/NAP's are organizing frameworks for LBA action and partnerships.

Adopted at the appropriate governmental level.

Provide a systematic framework to mobilize domestic, regional and international resources.

Provide national policy framework for all activities, partnerships, legislation and regulation, etc, pertaining to the protection of the coast and marine environment from land based activities.

Regional Seas Programmes (SAP and TDA's) provide regional framework of NPA/NAP's and GPA related activities.



Hilltops–2–Oceans (H₂O) Partnership Conference

A WSSD Type II Initiative

Cairns, Australia,

11-14 May 2004



www.hilltops2oceans.org

- Long-term partnership with the USA

Donor's Forum

- One outcome the GPA hopes will emerge from the Miami conference is the initiation of a Donor's Forum to facilitate greater cooperation between donors, including foundations, working in the Wider Caribbean Region on coastal and watershed issues.
- Here in Miami donors will meet Wednesday March 24th at 11:00am Orchid C meeting room to discuss the ideal structure for a Forum to enhance donor cooperation, as well as steps forward toward its creation.

Services of the Donor Forum

- The function of a Donor's Forum is to bring together the donors working on issues related to the GPA in the Wider Caribbean Region to network, share experiences (successes and failures), and identify opportunities for integrating projects, avoiding overlaps and filling gaps.
- The Forum will provide donors with timely information about activities in the region through a clearinghouse mechanism.
- In addition, the Forum will commit staff resources to proactively use the clearinghouse to identify opportunities for working together, as well as for avoiding overlaps and filling gaps in GPA-related activities in the region

Benefits for the Donor Community

- Establishes a broader and more readily accessible knowledge base of ongoing projects in the Caribbean
- Provides a mechanism to avoid duplication and leverage resources in the region
- Provides a forum for donor networking within the Caribbean community and beyond

Some results of the Panama meeting

Preparatory meeting for Miami

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From planning to action – forging concrete partnerships:
5 round tables

- NPA's/NAP's
- GEF IWCAM
- WW2BW Council and Information sharing.
- Tourism
- Ports and Harbors
- (WON?).

- Introduction to UNEP/GPA, UNESCO IHE, UNDOALOS, GEF ... Train-Sea-Coast Training Course on alternative approaches to municipal waste water.
- Board Room, Thursday

Tour operators Initiative, Blue Flag Caribbean

- DTIE, GPA, CAST etc



Visit the GPA Clearing-house



www.gpa.unep.org